

REMARKS**I. Status of the Claims:**

Claims 1-25 are pending in the application.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103:

Claims 1-5 and 7-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102, as allegedly being anticipated by Windows Media Player v. 7.00 (“WMP7”). Claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Windows Media Player v. 7.00 (“WMP7”). Claims 11-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over wmp7, in view of EP 0 883 320 A2 to Hatakeyama (“Hatakeyama”). Claims 25 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over WMP7, in view of Hatakeyama in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,657,646 to Partridge. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims for the following reasons.

1. Claim 1:

Claim 1 is directed to a method involving identifying appliances available to render media; identifying media sources; receiving a definition of a plurality of activities, each activity specifying an appliance and a media source; displaying an indication of activities; receiving selection of an activity; indicating that media associated with the media source of the selected activity is to be rendered on the appliance of the selected activity; and displaying a media bar for controlling the rendering of the media on the appliance of the selected activity.

On the contrary, WMP7 as relied upon by the Examiner does not disclose or suggest appliances available to render media and the associated claimed operations of

identifying, receiving a definition and so forth related to such appliances. Specifically, in the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that the CD player (or CD-ROM) is an appliance. See Office Action, page 10. However, a CD player (or CD-ROM) itself does not render media, but rather at best is a media source. For example, as described in Applicant's disclosure, a CD player or DVD player are media sources whose media may be rendered, for example, on an appliance such as a television or stereo. See e.g., Applicant's disclosure ¶¶ [0004] and [0024]. Accordingly, WMP7 as relied upon by the Examiner does not disclose or suggest appliances to render media or the identification of plural appliances to render media.

It necessarily follows that WMP7 as relied upon by the Examiner also does not disclose or suggest at least the claimed operations of receiving a definition of a plurality of activities, each activity specifying an appliance and a media source; displaying an indication of activities; receiving selection of an activity; indicating that media associated with the media source of the selected activity is to be rendered on the appliance of the selected activity; and displaying a media bar for controlling the rendering of the media on the appliance of the selected activity.

Accordingly, claim 1 and its dependent claims are not anticipated by WMP7 and are patentably distinguishable over the same.

2. Claim 11:

Claim 11 is directed to a method involving identifying media for rendering on an appliance, the media having a media type; retrieving an indication of controls used to control media of the identified media type; and displaying a media bar for controlling the rendering of the identified media on the appliance wherein buttons of the media bar have the same shape and

position regardless of the media type and wherein icons on the buttons change depending on the media type.

For reasons similar to those described above for claim 1, WMP7 as relied upon by the Examiner does not disclose or suggest an appliance for rendering media and the operations involving such appliance(s), as claimed.

Furthermore, as acknowledged by the Examiner, WMP7 does not disclose or suggest a media bar for controlling the rendering of the identified media on the appliance wherein buttons of the media bar have the same shape and position regardless of the media type and wherein icons on the buttons change depending on the media type. The Examiner relies upon Hatakeyama as teaching this feature. However, the cited portions of Hatakeyama (e.g., Figs. 7A-7C) simply show different button and icon arrangements for a control terminal dependent on the terminal-type to be controlled (e.g., television terminal, video terminal, image receiving terminal, etc.), but do not disclose or suggest icons on buttons changing depending on the “media type” or such change where buttons of the media bar have the same shape and position regardless of the media type.

Further, the Office Action states that “Motivation to do so would have been to provide a less confusing interface for the user limiting the number of buttons.” The Office Action, however, does not indicate where the motivational basis for combining the references in the manner suggested by the Examiner is found in the cited references or is objectively supported. In addition, absent impermissible hindsight, it is unclear why one of ordinary skill in the art would modify the alleged audio player and video player of WMP7 with changing icons on the buttons based on media type (where buttons of the media bar have the same shape and

position regardless of the media type) to provide a less confusing interface for the user limiting the number of buttons as asserted in the Office Action.

Accordingly, claim 11 and its dependent claims are patentably distinguishable over the cited references, individually or in combination.

CONCLUSION

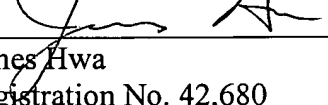
Based on the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 3802-4059.

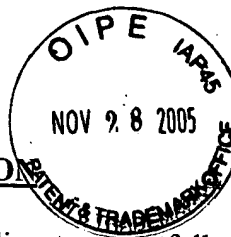
In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 3802-4059. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: November 28, 2005

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